Forest Land-Bhandara
Proposal for permission to carry out drilling of 01 Nos. test (Scout) boreholes near North West Azimabad Bhandara.

Government of Maharashtra
Revenue and Forest Department
Government Order No.: FLD-2024/CR.63/F-10
Mantralaya, Mumbai-400 032
Date:-13.03.2024

Reference:-

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Nagpur Letter No. Desk-17/ Nodal / S1/PID/Nagpur/3201/2023-24, Dt.15.02.2024.

Preamble:-

The Senior Geologist, (Project-in-Charge), Economic Geology, Geological Survey of India, CR Nagpur has submitted a proposal for to carry out drilling for geological investigation for critical mineral commodities like copper and associated minerals of 01 Nos. test (scout) boreholes near north west of Azimabad, Bhandara District to the State Forest Department. APCCF & Nodal Officer has submitted this proposal to Government of Maharashtra vide letter under referred above.

Order:-

In exercise of powers under general approval granted by MoEF&CC, Govt. of India vide Handbook of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023, Guidelines-2023 (Chapter-6, Para. 6.1), Government of Maharashtra is pleased to permission to carry out drilling of 01 Nos. test (Scout) boreholes near north west Azimabad Bhandara.

2. The details of Forest Land are as under:-

Sr. No.	Item work purpose	District	Name of Village	Survey /Gut No.	Total Area	Required area (in ha)	Status
1	for permission to carry out drilling of 01 Nos. test (Scout) boreholes near north west Azimabad Bhandara.	Bhandara	Azimabad	61, New Gut No. 40	65.31 ha.	0.03 ha.	Reserved Forest

3. This permission is subject to the following conditions-

1) Deputy Conservation of Forest shall ensure that the area involved in the project does not form part of any Protected area such as National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Nature Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Tiger Corridor, prior to the commencement of work.
2) The legal status of the forest land will remain unchanged.
3) Construction of temporary dwelling/hutments etc., for labourers will not be allowed in the forest areas.
4) Adequate precautions shall be taken to safeguard and adjoining area from explosives and it shall not be stored in the forest area.
5) The User Agency will not dump the overburden on the forest land.

6) The User Agency should clearly understand that this permission is being granted only for bore holes over 0.03 ha. for geological investigation.
7) The User Agency shall be allowed exploratory drilling of a maximum of 1 bore holes of 4” diameter over 0.03 ha. forest land.
8) The said permission shall remain admissible up to the prescribed period specified under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023.
9) Adequate precautions shall be taken to safeguard the adjoining areas from explosives and it shall not be stored in the forest area.
10) The UA should clearly understand that this permission is being granted only for carry of drilling of 1 borehole over 0.03 ha.
11) The permission for drilling in the area do not confer any right to the user agency to claim forest land diversion in future for ancillary activities related to the project under section 2(ii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. All such cases will be dealt on merits.
12) User agency shall seek permission of DCF/DFO of concern Forest Division before entering into the forest area.
13) User agency shall not sublease the drilling work.
14) A bore-hole shall be dug with prior permission of the DCF/DFO.
15) Proper plugging of boreholes shall be made after drilling activities are complete.
16) User agency shall report the progress of drilling work to the DCF/DFO, and also furnish detailed report thereof on completion of the project.
17) No tree felling shall be undertaken for drilling activities. Project activities shall be restricted to clearing of bushes and lopping of tree branches it any for the purpose of site preparation.
18) Adequate measures shall be taken by the user agency to ensure that drilling activities do not harm the wildlife in the area. Any damage done in this context, shall be compensated by the user agency as per assessment by the local DCF/DFO.
19) The user agency shall be responsible for any loss to the flora and fauna in the surrounding. Any damage done in this regard shall be compensated by the user agency from the project cost as per assessment of the local DCF/DFO.
20) DCF, Bhandara may impose any other condition for protection and conservation of the flora and fauna in the forest area.
21) In case, rights over forest land proposed to be used for drilling purpose, has already been settled in favour of eligible claimants as per provisions of the Forest Rights Act, 2006, the claimants shall either be compensated appropriately or location of borehole be suitably re-located.
22) No fire will be kindled inside and in the vicinity of the forest area.
23) User Agency shall provide a list of authorized officials/ workers engaged in drilling to the forest department before commencing the work and also provide the Identity Cards/ Documents to each such official/ worker, to be produced when demanded by the forest department.
24) The samples collected during the drilling shall be used purely for investigation purposes and shall in no case be used for trade or commerce purpose;
25) DCF, Bhandara shall deploy adequate staff to supervise the activities to be undertaken by the user agency to prevent any damage to the flora (especially the

fresh regeneration), fauna and also to prevent felling of trees during drilling of holes and movement of equipment;

26) After completion of the drilling bore hole shall be completely filled up and the ground restored back to its original position;
27) During transportation of Bore Drilling Machine / rigs, no new road/ permanent path in the forest area will be constructed.
28) Deputy Conservator of Forests should ensure that all requirements are fulfill as per the provisions of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.
29) All other conditions as may be mandatory under relevant Acts, Rules and guidelines shall be complied with by the user agency.
30) Any breach of the conditions by the User Agency will be treated as violation of the provisions of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action will be taken accordingly.

4. This Government Order is available at the Government of Maharashtra's website www.maharashtra.gov.in with reference No. 202403131633325319. This Order has been signed digitally.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra.

GANESH TUKARAM JADHAO

Digitally signed by GANESH TUKARAM JADHAO
DN: c=IN, o=GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA, ou=REVENUE AND FOREST DEPARTMENT,
2.5.4.20=0078f58512d3ac01315bbbfa4b473ed7729dd2d3164410 6e2966ab9ee6e92d7d, postalCode=400032, st=Maharashtra,
serialNumber=6FEEDE606678D569A76B842319BD1C2969AA85B BA5CDCCEE147249F17965E8BB, cn=GANESH TUKARAM JADHAO
Date: 2024.03.13 16:45:41 +05'30'

(Ganesh Jadhao)
Under Secretary to the Government of Maharashtra

Copy to:-

1. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi.
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), MS, Nagpur.
3. Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, Nagpur.
4. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Nagpur
5. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & CEO (Maha-CAMPA), Nagpur
6. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Conservation), Nagpur
7. Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Nagpur.
8. Deputy Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhandara.
9. Senior Geologist (Project-In-Charge), Project Economic Geology, State Unit, Maharashtra GSI, CR, Nagpur.
10. Select File-F-10.